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Improved second satellite

Bangalore. [UNI]:Bhaskara-II India's second earth observation satellite now awaiting to be launched from the Soviet Union for its scheduled launch in the middle of the month, has undergone certain configural modifications aimed at improved performance and reliability.

The modifications made in the light of the experience gained by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in the working of its predecessor Bhaskara-I would enable a more sensitive measurement of total water content in the atmosphere. Certain changes have also been made to avert the snag that caused the malfunctioning of the television camera system in Bhaskara-I.

Some of the changes in Bhaskara-II to eliminate the anomalies encoutered in Bhaskara-I include direct connection of the high voltage to the television tube in the camera system to offset the "corona discharge" that caused the initial breakdown of the cameras of Bhaskara-I.

Bhaskara-II would carry a two band television camera system for visible and near infra-red imaging and a three-frequency radio meter operating at 19, 22 and 31 GHZ frequencies.

All the ground supporting systems including mission control at SHAR, Sriharikota as well as ground stations at SHAR, Ahmedabad and bearslake at Moscow are getting ready for the inorbit operations of the satellite.

Nair Singapore president

Singapore - Parliament has unanimously elected veteran politician and trade union leader C.V. Devan Nair, 58, as the country's third president. Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew said the new president will be non-partisan and will represent all Singaporeans. Of Indian origin, Mr. Nair succeeds Benjamin Sheares, who died in May. Although an active supporter of the Communist cause in the early 1950s, he became a staunch non-Communish, Mr. Lee said.

Rise in non-resident investments

New Delhi,[UNI]:The Indian Investment Centre (IIC) had improved its performance in all the three fields of its activity -- foreign collaborations in India, Indian joint ventures abroad and investment in India by non-resident Indians -- during 1980-81 as compared to the previous year, according to IIC Chairman and Executive Director Harbans Singh.

Mr.Singh said the number of written euquiries increased from 10,096 in 1979-80 to 12,256 in 1980-81. Similarly, the total number of visitors increased from 6,424 to 8,227.

U.S. trade irritant removed

New Delhi [UNI] - A major irritant in bilateral trade relations between India and the United States has been removed.

With the U.S. government's decision to agree to give imports from India the benefit of "injury test," termed as a major irritant, the Indian exporters are confident that their products would now be exempt from countervailing duties.

According to the Chairman of the Engineering Export Promotion Council, the U.S. decision for application of the subsidy and injury tests has removed uncertainty and fear in the minds of Indian manufacturers and exporters.

According to the widely read, "Times of India," the United States had earlier unilaterally gone back on an undertaking given at a multilateral forum and had refused to recognise India as a signatory to GATT trade articles relating to subsidies and counter-vailing duty measures. Subsequent to protests by India, the United States agreed to extend these benefits, arising out of Tokyo round of multilateral negotiations to India.

The United States refusal to extend the benefits had hit Indian manufacturers badly by subjecting exports to countervailing duties. The items affected at one stage were textiles, castings, industrial fasteners and leather footwear.

According to the "Times," the long-term impact of the United States decision on Indian exports would be significant. Last year, India's total exports to the U.S. were about one billion dollars while the U.S. exports to India were valued at 1.67 billion dollars. This year, the imbalance has grown further in favour of the U.S.

India, maintains that the refund of indirect taxes by the government to Indian manufacturers and exporters -- in view of the comparative conditions of infrastructural facilities in developing and developed countries -- should not be construed as export subsidy. The Indian Export Council has hoped that GATT code would be amended to incorporate this point of view.

Ban on Kirpans debated

New Delhi - The Indian government is still considering whether to impose a formal ban on the carrying of Sikh holy knives on airline flights following their use in a hijacking last week.

The five hijackers of an Indian Airlines Boeing 737 seized the plane September 29 armed only with the knives, known as kirpans, and forced it to fly to Lahore, Pakistan. The hijackers, supporters of a movement for a separate Sikh state of Khalistan, were overpowered and captured in Lahore the next day.

The Civil Aviation Department here announced an immediate effective ban on kirpans, bvt the government has not decided whether to make this a formal prohibition.

The issue is sensitive because of the important religious significance the kirpan has for Sikhs, who number 13 million of India's 685 million population.

Misuse Charged

Home Minister Zail Singh, himself a Sikh, said in Hyderabad October 3 that the hijackers had insulted the kirpan and added: "The misuse of the kirpan has compelled us to think whether it should be allowed on domestic flights," the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported.

Meanwhile, Tourism and Civil Aviation Minister A.P. Sharma said it was natural that steps would be taken to ban the carrying of kirpans inside aircraft. He added that passengers carrying the knives would be required to deposit them with airline staff members and collect them on arrival at their destinations.

But officials of one Sikh-dominated political party in Punjab, the Akali Dal, were quoted by PTI as saying that the reported move to ban kirpans either in trains or planes would hurt the religious sentiments of Sikhs and lead to far-reaching consequences. Most Sikhs live in Punjab.

The Five K's

The Sikh religion requires devout Sikhs to wear the five K's - kesh (long hair), kanga (comb), kara (bangle), kacha (underwear) and kirpan.

Meanwhile, the police have arrested 70 Sikh extremists in Punjab since the hijacking of the airliner, PTI reported. It was not immediately known what charges were brought against them.

The news agency said most of those arrested were activists of the extremist Dal Khalsa youth movement and that police were looking for 30 other members. The movement was set up recently to demand the creation of Khalistan in Punjab.

[Reuter].

Pheasant being phased out

Calcutta, [UNI]: Various brilliantly coloured species of pheasants may not be seen flying in near future if the destruction of their habitats is not stopped immediately, according to the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI)

Goa free trade zone

New Delhi, [UNI]:The western coastal Union territory of Goa receives more than Rs.500 million annually as remittances from Goans serving elsewhere in the world, according to its Chief Minister Pratab Singh Rane.

Pressing for a free trade zone in Goa at a new conference Mr.Rane said he had impressed upon the Central Government the importance of such an area. A free trade zone, he said would give Goa an additional Rs.1,000 million in foreign exchange and employment to 20,000 people.

He said iron ore exploration, remittances from Goans, tourism and the high percentage of literacy were factors which could put Goa, on the industrial map of India. Gas has a literacy rate 60%, next only to Kerala.

In a feasibility report prepared by the Kirloskars -- an industrial group -- Mr.Rane said Goa had already set aside 100 hectares for the proposed free trade zone which would accomodate 63 units varying from diamond polishing to watch making and garment manufacturing. Goa was one of the first areas to set up a diamond cutting factory.He said the tourist traffic in Goa had reached the target and was expected to exceed that of Kashmir.

Referring to the misuse of its beautiful beaches by hippies, Mr.Rane said as long as they lived within the purview of the law they were welcome. As for drug abuse, he said the Goa Government had amended the drug addicts and drug trafficking Act, making it an unbailable offence and raising the maximum sentence to seven years. This is the biggest punishment so far for the offence in the country.

To promote tourism , the government will soon collaborate with the Indian Tourism Development Corporation for the the opening of "destination resort".

White elephant or wise investment?

Britain's Davy Corporation has succeeded, after three years of tortuous negotiations, in winning a $2.8 billion contract for building a public-sector steel plant at the port of Paradip in eastern India. The plant will produce 1.5m tonnes of liquid steel per year, and Davy has agreed to buy back 50 per cent of the steel output at international prices. The plant promises to acquire a place of honour among the white elephants of India's public sector: the capital cost is phenomenally high, and the decision to build a plant concentrating on exports looks increasingly misguided.

There were four main contenders for the contract, but only the groups led by Davy and by Mannesman Demag of West Germany had much chance. Both were international consortia. Davy's group included West Germany's Gutehoffnungshutte and France's Alsthom; the Demag group included Britain's GEC and other European companies. At first Davy bid $3.8 billion. Demag undercut, and Davy then slashed its bid to $2.8 billion.

Demag seemed willing to cut the price further, but it could not master Davy's financing package. The British government agreed to throw in 150m pounds of aid, of which 100m pounds would be an outright grant over and above normal aid flows. The french government agreed to give a soft loan of Frl.15 billion as well.

Roughly $1.5 billion will come in the form of export credits, and $800m through a Eurocurrency loan. The average rate of interest of the total pachage will be 5 per cent. Under the OECD's moribund gentleman's agreement, export credits to India should not cost less than 8.25 per cent. Demag was handicapped by the West German government's refusal to toss in a large dollop of aid.

Davy will build the plant on a turnkey basis, with freedom to choose what work will be given to Indian contractors and what to foreign ones. It has bound itself to 45 months to complete the job. Since India's producers of steel-plant equipment are notorious for delays, almost all the equipment will be imported. Local costs may be less than one third of the contract value.

The project was originally envisaged as a big exporter of steel, if one that would also depend on imports for a quarter of its coking coal. The port of Paradip in Orissa was therefore suggested as the location. The land around Paradip is low-lying and marshy, involving expensive filling and piling.

The bulk of the raw materials will come from inland centres. It would have made more sense to locate the plant at the iron-ore mines.

Thanks to the delay in negotiating the contract, it has now become doubtful whether the country will have an exportable surplus of steel by the time the plant starts operation in 1986. This strikes at the very concept of building a plant which would pay for itself through exports.

The government has decided to press on regardless. It is far cheaper to expand existing steel plants than build new ones; but there is constant political pressure from every region for new sites. India is already building two other greenfield plants in the south, and the government has promised to build one more in the state of Karnataka. Officials console themselves with the thought that, by the time the plant is completed, inflation will make its costs look healthy, at least in nominal terms. And high capital costs will be partly offset by exceptionally cheap iron ore, and coal costing one third of the international price.

Bull points? Steel workers get barely $120 per month. The capacity of the Paradip plant is to be doubled later to 5m tonnes per year; the expansion will cost less than the first phase. These do not all up to a commercially viable proposition, say the plant's critics. However, if that was the criterion, half the investment ever made in India would not have been undertaken.

[The Economist].

Harijans on the run

Even 35 years after independence, the Harijans [Hindu outcastes], continue to face social, economic and political exploitation at the hands of the high caste Hindus, the Brahmins in particular. The latest in the series of atrocities on them occurred in Haryana state recently. Following is a report by a UNI correspondent.

by Vinod Sharma

New Delhi, [UNI] - Terrorised by police and powerful upper caste Hindus, 200 Harijans (Hindu outcastes) have fled their homes in a tiny village in the neighbouring state of Haryana.

Their clothes in tatters and meagre belongings loaded on bullock carts, the Harijans are now camping outside a temple a few hundred metres from here on the Delhi-Haryana border.

Their demand: Protection from the police and high caste Hindus, who are allegedly backed by an influential Haryana politician.

The Harijans, mostly agricultural labourers, left their thatched houses in Nizampur Khurd village on the night of September 20 when a senior Haryana police officer, who visited the village to bring about a compromise between the two groups, warned them: "Toe their lines or the Brahmins will massacre you."

The Brahmins occupy the top position in the caste-ridden Hindu society and are not expected to do any manual labour, unlike the Harijans.

The bone of contention between the Harijans and the upper caste villagers is a narrow lane running through the Harijan settlement. The upper caste men want to drive their tractors through it with the alleged intention of carrying out "illegal" constructions on another lane which leads to their houses.

The Harijans resisted these attempts as they tied their cattle in the lane besides sleeping in it in summer. This irked the upper caste Hindus who, at the instigation of two leading families, allegedly indulged in unprovoked brick-batting and diverted the flow of rain water and sewage to the Harijan basti.

Clash

The growing tension between the two communities led to a clash on the night of August 29. The upper caste men allegedly snapped the electricity wires and attacked the Harijan basti in the cover of darkness. Pitched battles were fought with sticks and iron-tipped lathis and, according to the Harijans, nine people sustained injuries on their side.

"We had to return the attack as the high caste Hindus entered our houses and beat up women and children," they said.

A constable on duty confirmed that the Harijans had left their houses on September 20 -- the day two senior police officers visited the village.

Ved Singh, a village leader, said the police have been unfair to the Harijans. "A small problem has been aggravated by the police who sided with the upper castes under political pressure."

The village has a mixed population of upper caste Hindus, Harijans and Jats, a militant community in north India. Singh, who is a jat, said the trouble has been master-mined by two influential families. "All Brahmins are not opposed to the Harijans, but they have been misled by a few who do not have a clean past."

Also known as Ghari, Nizampur Khurd is divided into two segments -- one shared by Jats and Harijans and other by upper castes and Harijans.

While normal activity goes on in the area shared by Jats and Harijans, the other part is in the grip of tension.

A Jat member of the "Panchayat" -- a committee of five which administers a village -- said both upper caste men and Harijans had, about a fortnight before the August 29 clash, lodged complaints apprehending danger to their lives. But when it came to making preventive arrests, the police picked up on the Harijans.

He said the upper caste families were so influential that they had never allowed a Harijan to be the station house officer (SHO) of the Kharkhoda police station, which was jurisdiction over the village. "When a few months back, a Harijan was posted as SHO, the Brahmins used their political influence to get him transferred."

The member said the Harijans left the village because nobody went to their help. When police officers visited the village on September 20, the upper caste Hindus indulged in brickbatting in their presence.

"The Harijans fled their homes fearing that they might be attacked again during the night, as had happened on August 29."

Anup Singh, a village elder of Ferozepur Bangar where the Harijans have now taken shelter, said they could continue to stay there till adequate arrangements are made for their security. "We have given them grain and shall also give them work and land to plough if need be."

After leaving their houses, a delegation of the Harijans met the Home Minister, Zail Singh, who promised to inquire into their complaint and write to the Haryana Chief Minister about it.

The Harijans also met the former Prime Minsiter, Charan Singh, a Jat by caste, and apprised him of their problem.

Railway co-operation urged

New Delhi [UNI] - The countries of South Asia and the Middle East region have been called upon to strive to bring about a railway renaissance oriented towards energy conservation in the coming decade.

India's External Affairs Minister, P.V. Narasimha Rao, made this appeal while inaugurating the 10-day sixth conference of the Top Railway Executives of Asia and the Middle East (TREAME) on October 14 here. The conference was held under the auspices of Indian Railway Ministry and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

Mr. Rao also called upon the railway system in the region to treat the present energy crisis both as a challenge and an opportunity in order to expand the and mobilise their rail transportation systems.

Dwelling on the problems facing the railways in the coming decade, Mr. Rao said greater international cooperation should be extended towards making the railways of the region technologically self-reliant.

According to the Railway Minister, Kedar Pandey, Indian Railways had been consistently striving to make the most of the existing assets and had employed numerous expendients to achieve higher clearance of traffic. The Railways had made considerable progress in the containerisation of goods traffic and they were now engaged in establishing international container depots at various points in the hinterland to serve as dry ports.

Mr. Pandey said there was an imperative need to share experience and expertise between the railway systems in various countries. Such cooperation, he said, was of vital importance as the current energy crisis had sharply highlighted the need for a revaluation of the role of the railway as an energy efficient mode of transport.

Cypriot wine in Indian hotels

New Delhi, [UNI]:Choicest Cypriot cuisine and wine would be served in hotels run by the Indian Tourism Development Corporaton before the year-end. To start with a Cypriot restaurant is to be opened in Ashoka Hotel soon, announced the Cypriot ambassador, A.A. Nicolaides. He said efforts are being made to bring a leading chef from one of the hotels in Nicosia to serve in Ashoka Hotel

Water therapy: a cure-all?

New Delhi, [UNI] - Give your child a particular type of bath and he will be cured of his ailments, say the advocates of water therapy.

Water therapy, a recent advance in the naturopathic curative method which is much resorted to in India, might prove to be the cure-all for children's diseases. Be it a cold or cough, fever or pain, the prescribed bath, if carried out regularly, will lead to a healthy growth of the child.

Dr. (Mrs.) M.L.A. Kulshreshtha, a delegate to the 6th International Conference of Women Engineers and Scientists held in Bombay in the second week of September, claims total success of this water-cure.

Naturopathy's basic principle of resorting to nature's elements to retain the balance between the body's elements is resorted to through this water therapy. It suggests: Wrap the child with a wet cloth up to the neck and cover it with a dry blanket. Keep the child under the "water pack" for 20 minutes for children below three months and for 40 minutes in case of others on alternate days and the child will be free from all skin diseases, according to Dr. Kulshreshtha.

IAF is fif

New Delhi,[UNI]:The Indian Air Force can look back at 50 years with pride at the record of its service to the nation it times of both war and peace.

From the fledging force of six Indian officers commissioned on October 8, 1932, it has grown from strength to strength. The Air Force has come a long way since the days of the Westland Wapiti, to supersonic strike aircrafts like the Jaguar and MIG -23.

Young flying officers like Nus-Shekhon, who laid down his life so that others could live, were pace-setters in the art of courage and patriotism, of which the IAF can still boast.

In 1948, it acquited Vampires, 1949 saw the addition of a training command. In 1956 the maint-

Checking bon

New Delhi,[UNI];Following an increasing number of hoax bomb scare calls that delay flights, a new system has been devised by security men at Indian airports to discourage such callers.

Strict vigilance will be maintained on passengers entering the airport terminal to check in for a flight after a bomb scare call. The check-in area will be cordoned off immediately and no passenger will be allowed to join the queue and check-in for the particular flight.

This has become necessary as airport security men doubt that sometimes the bomb scare call emanate from passengers who are delayed for a flight. To prevent the aircraft from taking off until they reach the airport a bomb scare call is made. This was found to be the case in a recent call

Art centre i

Bombay [UNI] - The upcoming Art Centre Complex in Goa, on the western shores of India, will soon place the picturesque Union territory on the cultural map of the country.

The Kala (Art) Academy's complex at Panaji is aesthetically located amidst sprawling boulevards of lush trees overlooking the beach.

Charles Correa is the architect of this unique non-building structure which promises to be a premier institution of its kind.

Goa with its luxuriant landscape, the palm fringed sky, the blue sea waters and breathtaking beauty draws tourists from all parts of the world. The former Portugese colony witnesses a confluence of two cultures. The cultural intermix is not only evident in the life styles of the populace but is also reflected in the development of the performing arts here.

The Kala Academy, the pioneer Art Institute in the territory has been contributing effectively in promotion

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In 1948, it acquited Vampires, 1949 saw the addition of a training command. In 1955 the maintenance command came into effect.The Air Force Academy Navigational Training School and Technical Training College were added soon after.

The year 1950 witnessed devstating earthquakes in Assam -- one of the severest in recorded history. The Air Force rendered invaluable service in carrying out the gigantic relief operations on the occasion.

The IAF came into its own, when in 1956 Air Marshal Subroto Mukherje became the commander-in-chief of air staff, the first Indian to get the post. In 1965 Indo-Pak conflict added another glorious chapter to the record of the IAF.In 1971, the IAF achieved complete air supermacy in the eastern sector within 48 hours of the start of the hostilities.

A tragedy of errors

Coimbatore, [UNI]:A local taxi driver who wanted to carry home a fox hit by his vehicle instead landed in police custody on charges of causing death to a police constable and seriously injuring another.

According to the police, the taxi hit a fox while spedding in the morning. The driver picked up the animal to carry it home. But the tricky carnivore, which lay in a dazed condition suddenly started to attack him. The driver lost control of the vehicle and bit two constables who were returning home after night duty. The vehicle stopeed after hitting a tree, but the driver and the fox had a miraculous escape.

One of injured contables died soon after admission to the Coimbatore hospital, while the other was reported out of danger.

The driver and the fox are in custody!

Oil self-sufficiency in 10 years

New Delhi, [UNI]:A United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) oil expert has predicted that India could become self-sufficient in oil within the next 10 years through enhanced recovery in existing fields and coverage of new areas.

Dr.N.Mugan, an expert on petroleum recovery who made an evaluation of India's capability of recovring maximum oil said in an interview that the average recovery of oil in India was only 20 per cent.

This meant that India was at the moment extracting only one-fifth of the oil available and the remaining four-fifth of the known reserves were left untapped.

The total oil production now in India is about 15 million tonnes. By using sophisticated equipment and technology if 40 per cent of the reserves could be extracted, India's oil production could be doubled.

Dr.Mungan, who was in New Delhi at the invitation of the Government of India, had recommended that the Institute of Reservoir Studies in Ahmedabad in Gujarat be funded in a significant way for the next two or three years.

Dr.Mungan, who had specialised in enhanced oil and gas recovery methods, said that the institute set up in 1978 was doing a very good job. Part of the fund which be had recommended could be in foreign exchange from the UNDP so that sophisticated equipments which were not available in India could be bought for the Institute.He said India could easily go in for 40% extraction. He also said countries like Brazil and France imported 85% of their oil requirements. India though was comparatively younger in oil exploration, had pulled ahead of a number of countries and was able to meet 50% of its requirements indigenously.

India was interested in carbon dioxide flooding and thermal methods and application of these two methods to recover more oil might be adopted in the country in the next two years.

Checking bomb hoax

New Delhi,[UNI]:Following an increasing number of hoax bomb scare calls that delay flights, a new system has been devised by security men at Indian airports to discourage such callers.

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This has become necessary as airport security men doubt that sometimes the bomb scare call emanate from passengers who are delayed for a flight. To prevent the aircraft from taking off until they reach the airport a bomb scare call is made. This was found to be the case in a recent call at Goa.

In the case of Airbus of Boeing-737, it takes the security authorities three to four hours to comb and clear the aircraft.

Recently, an Airbus had to return to Madras airport after being airborne for 30 minutes following a bomb threat which turned out to be a hoax.

In most cases, however, such calls come from cranks who makes it for fun. The authorities, however, cannot ignore such calls. They check the concerned aircraft before allowing it to fly.

Besides this, security at airports all over the country has been tightened following the hijacking of the Boeing recently to Pakistan. Armed guards have been posted at key entry points and no one is allowed without valid passes.

Boosting tourism

New Delhi[UNI]:India's minister for tourism and civil aviation, A.P.Sharma has called upon the private sector to collaborate in the development of tourism in the country. The tourism sector required massive investment and the government alone could not bear the expenses, he said.

As part of the plan to boost tourism, the government had identified 441 tourist centres falling along 61 travel circuits in the country He said steps have also been taken to encourage investment in the hotel industry and adequate schemes had been drawn up. He said, loan assistance from foreign collaborators was also permitted up to 50% of the total cost of the project.

Hope for drop-outs

By Tara Shankar Sahay

New Delhi, [UNI]:Zafar Hussain, a fairly good student, dropped out of school at the age of 12 as his father ,small farmer, needed help on the farm.

Jai Ram got himself recruited in the army while he was studying in the eighth class because, his father, an exserviceman, thought the young boy should take up his family profession and supplement his meagre pension.

Lajwanti was married to neighbour's son in the village as soon as she stepped into her 14th year. Her parents thought a young girl's place was in the husband's home, not in the school. So Lajwanti gave up studies and became a housewife.

For Zafar, Jai Ram and Lajwanti -- all school drop-outs for reasons beyond their control -- a new ray of light has appeared -- to pick up old threads and complete their high school education.

The ray of hope is the Open School conceived by the Indian Ministry of Education.Under this pilot project, which has just begun, hundreds of Zafars, Jai Ram and Lajwanti can complete their schooling at home -- without going to school.

What is more, they can complete their schooling in stages and at their convenince. The syllabus has been made need-based and vocation-oriented.

This is the result of report submitted to the ministry in 1974.The Open School is the first step towards the constitutional goal of education for all.

Art centre in Goa

Bombay [UNI] - The upcoming Art Centre Complex in Goa, on the western shores of India, will soon place the picturesque Union territory on the cultural map of the country.

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The Kala Academy, the pioneer Art Institute in the territory has been contributing effectively in promotion of art and culture for the past ten years. The Academy runs a college of arts, the only one of its kind in Maharashtra, affiliated to Bombay University and offers degree and post graduate studies in the fine arts. The Academy also runs Akademia de Musica which offers training in Western classical music and also plays a vital role in preserving the influence of the Portugese music. Recently the Academy has started training in Indian classical music also.

The Goa art complex intends to provide the best facilities to the dancers, musicians and actors.

Exquisitely designed, the complex's theatre with accommodating capacity of one thousand, the open-air theatre which would seat 2,500 people, the black-box for experimental work, seminar halls, the plaza, the small studios for musicians and dancers, the library, the museum, the cafeteria, the garden, the famous Charles Correa colour domes and art gallery.

From mosque to office

New Delhi [UNI]:The transformation of the capital's 16th century Abdun Nabi mosque into a modern 20th century relic has behind it a long tale of mixed fortunes.

The masjid, situated at the northern end of Delhi, overlooking the Jamuna river, was built in 1575-76 during the reign of the Mughal Emperor Akbar.

The mosque was under the protection of the Chief Commissioner of Delhi in June 1924. Under the terms of the agreement, the mosque was to remain a protected monument, with the repairs being undertaken by the Muhammedean Cemetery Committee at their own expense.The Archeological Survey of India (ASI), which maintains all ancient monuments, was to conduct the supervisory work.

More Indians visit Pak

New Delhi, [UNI]:The number of Indian citizens visiting Pakistan increased to a record monthly average of 9,570 during the current year as against the average monthly figure of 7,800 for 1980 according to a relase by the Pak embassy in Delhi.

During the same period the number of Pakistan citizens leaving for India declined to 17,240 per month as against the monthly average of 18,075 in 1980.

The data compiled by the Pakistan immigration authorities indicates that consistently 12 per cent more Indian citizens enter Pakistan than the number who return.

Meanwhile, the Pakistan embassy has received a large number of letters from Indian nationals expressing appreciation and gratitude for the assistance rendered by the Government of Pakistan in obtaining the safe release of passengers and crew of the Indian Airlines plane hijacked to Lahore in September this year.

Endangered deer species

Calcutta,[UNI]-The Zoological Survey of India(ZSI) has named the "Thamin' of Manipur in northeast India as one of the most endangered deer species in the world and classified four other species as either scarce or vulnerable.

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Two Years: $14.00	Canada $12.00, U.S.A. $13.00

WHITHER MULTICULTURALISM

It was ten years ago that the Prime Minister of Canada announced that multiculturalism is the official policy of the Government. Perhaps it is time to review the past ten years and assess its working in order to see where it is likely to go.

An honest appraisal of the policy and its implementation show a lack of willingness on the part of the Government of Canada to be effective in implementing the policy. Of course, lip service was paid to the policy. A token budget has been included for the multiculturalism program every year. Hundred wise ethnics from all over Canada come to Ottawa a few times a year to discuss the new directions in multiculturalism. They pass countless resolutions, 99.9 per cent of which are thrown in the waste basket!

At the same time the word multiculturalism was used repeatedly during the election time and the so-called ethnics delivered their votes promptly. From the point of view of the Liberal party the policy was a success, but what did the minority groups receive?

After ten years of multiculturalism, still the reins of real power vests with the English and French groups. The enthusiasts of multiculturalism are still waiting under the table relishing the crumps that occasionally fall down.

It is time to give some meaning and substance to this policy.

Poppy husk abuse

Calcuatta, [UNI]:The abuse of poppy husk as a substitute for opium for its narcotic effects and its availability in the illicit internal channel are on the increase, according to papers prepared by India's Central Bureau of Narcotics.

Illicit trafficking in the poppy husk and capsules increased after their exports to different countries had continued to slump since 1976, the paper said.

The increased abuse of poppy husk and capsules having morphine content had become evident with the seizure of higher quantities from different places in India. The three poppy growing States -- Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh -- had framed comprehensive poppy head rules to control the production and possession of the commodity.

Growing drug abuse

Delegates from 60 nations met in New Delhi recently to discuss ways to combat the menace of drug abuse and illicit trafficking of drugs in the developed and and developing countries. The National and Regional Conference on Drug Abuse was told that the illegal drug industry grosses over 200 billion U.S.dollars annually.

By Tara Shankar Sahay

New Delhi[UNI]:Christopher, a student of Delhi University, was expelled from the college hostel for smoking marijuana.Later he was rusticated from the university for three years for "indiscriminate" consumption of alcohol, misbehaviour with girl students and peddling narcotic drugs on the campus.

Christopher, once rated as a brilliant student, has now been admitted to a drug de-addiction centre. He is one of the many young men who, for one reason or another, have fallen victim to the scourge of drug abuse that has assumed alarming proportions in big cities in the country.

In a medical college in the northwestern Indian state of Punjab, the entire batch of medicos of a particular discipline became drug addicts. The alarmed director of the college approached the district administration to ban the sale of pethidine to medical students. It was also removed from the laboratory shelves in the college. But the drug addiction continued.

The student addicts made regular trips to various towns in the state and often came all the way to Delhi to procure the drug. The college authorities waged a losing battle against the problem and were relieved only when the batch left after completing the course.

The National and Regional Conference on Drug Abuse, organised by the All India Institute of Medical sciences here recently, discussed ways to combat drug abuse and the illicit traffic in drugs.

According to the latest reports presented at the conference, the illegal drug industry grosses over 200 billion U.S. dollars a year.

Delegates from 60 countries including Kenya, Bangladesh, Nepal, Burma, Sri Lanka, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Philippines, participating in the conference came to the conclusion that drug abuse was more pronounced in the developed countries than in the developing countries.

Dr.Devendra Mohan, assistant professor of Psychiatry, told the conference that alcoholism and drug abuse in India were gradually getting out of control. One reason was the uncertainty of governmental policy. The lack of intergovernmental cooperation was another impediment.

Dr.Mohan said drug abuse had resulted in increased absenteeism from work, rise in industrial accidents and diminishing skill of workers. In urban areas the increasing stresses and breakdown of inter-personal communication are thought to be reasons for increased drug use and excessive drinking.In rural areas, while the drug problem was not so serious, consumption of alcohol had gone up with agricultural prosperity.

Letters

Refugees

It is with great regret that I have to write a few words in response to the letter of certain S.Singh of Ottawa who has given his enlightened views regarding the plight of Sikhs in your paper dated September 21, 1981.

I have no startling discoveries to announce. In many ways I am writing only about things that everybody knows -- everyone lives in this same world. But often we fail to notice what is going on. Or we are so thoroughly involved in what we are doing that we cannot see its relation to what other people are doing. Mr. Singh's letter is not only full of vague and absurd ideas but also it is a clear cut case of instigating hatred among people.

Ever since the Independence of India the Sikhs had been integral part of Indian social, political and religious fields in every respect. In politics just to mention a few names --Sardar Hukam Singh, Giani Zail Singh, Sardar Swaran Singh, Darbara Singh and many more had been in the top realms. As admitted by Mr.Singh himself the Sikhs are patriotic to the core, they are excellent sportsmen, professionals, and are treated as such in India and abroad. It should be borne in mind that the aim of Guru Nanak's preaching was the unity of mankind. Guru Nanak had undertaken to raise the morale and social status of downtrodden people of his times and the Gurus who followed him laid equal stress on this problem during their life time.

The course of history has brought many changes to the Sikh religion founded by Nanak as a protestant movement for Hindus and Muslims. Many sects emanated from this movement. For a time Sikhism was the State religion of the Punjab region of India, and Sikhism became a political entity more than a religious one.

Even in the twentieth century the Sikhs are known for their valour in the British colonial forces. Today there are about 10 million Sikhs all over the world. I may, therefore, suggest to Mr.Singh to review his thinking a little and look everywhere around him. They would not be living in these places if they are treated in a humiliating manner.

I am not a Sikh but I am a stern believer of Guru Nanak and his teaching. My family used to have tradition to make one boy from the family a Sikh.Mr.Singh is suggesting to divide families. And not only that he would like to see a Sikh brother killing his Hindu brother or vice versa. I am sure, you do not mean to suggest, Mr.Singh that you really want to see the streets of Punjab - where I was born and raised -- filled with the blood of brothers killing each other.

May be I should draw your attention to the history. The restlessness of man in history shows that men are not satisfied by the fulfillment of their desires, but they also seek to fulfil their unconcious real desires.

The basic creed of Sikhism as laid down by Guru Nank, was that a Sikh was to take refuge in holy association where God's eulogies were talked about or sung and his main support should be the sacred word of the Guru (Gurbani).Most people, most of the time, wish for peace. But human history can be recounted as a series of interludes between wars. There is no simple remedy for healing such vast gap between man's sincere desire for peace and his historical experience of frequent wars.

Clinging to arms that are supposed to give us protection, we ourselves become their target. Threfore, next time you write something, please don't make patriot look like traitor.

Om Kochar,
Prince Albert, Sask.

Wisdom of visa decision

It seems quite unfair for the Immigration Minister Lloyd Axworthy to take such a harsh stand by stripping India of its present visa-exempt status regarding its visitors to Canada all because of a few hundred refugee status claims by Sikhs.

Granted, this may have caused a backlog in such claims waiting to be processed, and granted, that the U.N. commissioner for refugees has not recognized refugee claims for Indian nationals fleeing India and there is no identifiable political persecution taking place in India today, why doesn't the Immigration Department deal with the claims, and reject them, if need be -- this will set the example and stop the flow in a hurry as the word gets around, instead of stripping the entire country of India of its visitor's visa-exempt status.

Dick Lochar

Edwina Mountbatt

When St.

The following excerpt is from Diplomatic Passport, the diary of Charles Ritchie, who has served many years in Canada's diplomatic service.The book is published by MacMillan of Canada.

Feb.20, 1954,Peshawar
Seldom have I come to a place which has had the same instant attraction for me as this. County Cork, the town of Avalon in France, the Isle of Jura, Wolfville in Nova Scotia -- all were cases of love at first sight for me. When I awoke this morning it was to hear the Moslem call to prayer floating over an English garden. We are staying at the local Government House. From my window I see an English vista, a village church, hedges, English trees, a cricket ground. The call to prayer and the sound of command and of the bugle are always in the air in Pakistan, yet there is something peculiar to Peshawar, as if we were staying in someone's house when the host was away. The English haunt the place.

Feb. 21, On to Lahore.
Our knowledge of the subcontinent appears to be restricted to Government Houses. The Government House in Lahore is a cream-coloured, pillared, sprawling mansion brilliant in sunlight. The bookshelves are filled with out-of-date English novels (many W.J. Locke's) and old sepia-tinted photographs of picnics and polo games. There is tea before breakfast, the bath is drawn. The servants never leave one alone for an instant. An individual bottle of whisky is brought to one's room to prepare one for the interminable Moslem banquets without a drop but water to drink. Last evening I went in company with a supercilious maharanee and members of the local smart set to the ball for the end of the Lahore horse show. I might as well have been in the Golf Club in Ottawa -- the same kind of talk, the same tunes from the band, but with Moslem ladies sitting in groups, not dancing.

February 24, New Delhi
From the moment that we arrived at the New Delhi airport we were in different world from Pakistan -- more settled, richer, neater, less of a poor, untidy pioneer country. The contrast between Karachi and New Delhi is overwhelming.Here is a garden city of broad streets and houses set back among green gardens.

We are staying in what used to be the Viceroy's house here, Lutyen's palace, imposing, original, monumental and monumentally successful, an establishment on the scale of Versailles. Indeed, Versailles in its pompous emphasis is the only palace comparable to this. Hundreds of cooks in the kitchen (I believe there are 800 servants in all). A turbaned, bearded father-figure brings breakfast and stands over you while you eat it. The bathtubs are of marble,

Edwina Mountbatten's role

When St. Laurent met Nehru

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The Prime Minister(Louis St.Laurent) had been looking forward to this visit and his meeting with Nehru as the high point of his tour. He and Nehru have been conducting a tremendous pen-pal friendship for months. They have been exchanging interminable telegrams of mutual congratulation and esteem, but I am not at all sure how this love affair is going to prosper. It was surprising to Mr.St. Laurent to find that this Wise Man of the East conversed in the style and language of Bloomsbury, a style very far from the Prime Minister's own. However, our High Commissioner here, Escott Reid seems to think that the talks between them, after a shaky start, are going extremely well. I have not been present at their official meetings, as Escott has taken over. If anyone can make the visit a success Escott can, as in addition to his exceptional ability and charm of manner he is an enthusiastic lover of India.

As for one's impression of Nehru, what can one say? The English painter who has come out here to paint his portrait says that the task is impossible. A thousand expressions flicker across his face. When he met us at the airport he jumped about from one foot to the other, making the gesture of pulling up his long white cotton trousers as if they were slipping down. He is not the pontifical figure I had expected. Gayer, more mobile, more immediate; impatient, too, between a caress and a barb.

Last night we dined with him - the Prime Minister, Madeleine (daughter of Mr. St.Laurent) and myself. It is, I think, unfortunate from the point of view of a "prise de contact" between him and Mr.St.Laurent that Lady Mountbatten should be staying here. She strikes a Mayfair note which the Prime Minister cannot pick up. When we arrived in the hall of Mr.Nehru's house it was she who greeted us, looking charming yet lined and wrinkled from gracious smiling. In the hall was a head of Nehru by Epstein. The Prime Minister remarked, "Well, I suppose that is a very fine likeness." Lady Mountbatten emitted a little cry of horror and said "Oh don't tell him that. It is too ghastly and must be got rid of." The Prime Minister looked somewhat at a loss.

At dinner there was no real opportunity for any consecutive talk between the two men. After dinner, long pauses in the conversation began to set in. Finally Lady Mountbatten, to break the log-jam, said to Nehru, "Do show the Prime Minister your Tibetan costume and your Kashmiri dressing gown". At once Nehru jumped to his feet and, slightly stooped, ran from the room. After a longish interval he returned, clad in a magnificent Kashmiri dressing gown, then disappeared again, to return in Tibetan dress. He seemed to be much enjoying himself and relieved to escape from conversational effort.

February 27, New Delhi

Last night was Mr.Nehru's dinner in honor of the Prime Minister -- white tie and decorations (if any). At the hour of dinner I had a call to go to the Prime Minister's bedroom. I found him standing in the middle of the room, white tie, white waistcoat,tailcoat, long woollen underwear, no trousers. He said, "Here now I suppose my trousers have been left on the plane. That was precisely what had happened. Everyone else in his entourage had his trousers, but the Prime Minister was trouserless. Like Sir Walter Raleigh throwing down his cloak for Queen Elizabeth to walk upon, I said, "Take mine, Prime Minister," but a second look at his girth and mine showed that this was a physical impossibility. I called one of the innumerable servants to inquire after a pair of spare trousers, but apparently there are none in this vast palace. We sent him running to the nearest bazaar in New Delhi to purchase a pair. The moments ticked by. The Prime Minister was already 11 minutes late for dinner. Finally the sevant returned bearing with him an extremely greasy pair of second or third-hand trousers of such circumference that they had to be fastened round the Prime Minister's waist with safety pins. During the whole of this agonizing ordeal Mr.St. Laurent remained perfectly unpreturbed and patient, with never a word of complanit. My mind boggled at the thought of what Mac'kenzie King would have said in these circumstances.

The sentiment heard in government circles is extremely anti-American. The Americans can do no right in Indian eyes. At one moment they are accused of selfish isolationism and neglect of poorer countries, at the next of imperialist ambitions to dominate. There is a great deal of harping on American materialism in contrast to the spiritual values of India. I am beginning to find this very irritating. As a Canadian, I feel quite free to criticize the Americans, but when other people do it I instinctively rally to their defence.

"I had a long talk the day before yesterday at one of these endless lemonade-drinking receptions with Indira, Nehru's daughter. She is a handsome woman, but cold. She talked humanitarianism and social reform but in a bloodless fashion, tinged with immense smugness and self-righteousness. I took strongly against her.

A day of sightseeing. Fatehpur Sikri in the morning. The Prime Minister said that he pictured in his imagination the carpets and fountains of the time of the Mogul court. He responds to every impression in India. He seems as interested in ancient monuments as he is in pipelines and the complexities of corporation law. I find it very attractive that a man of his age and in his position should be so open to new impressions. He says that never in his life has he has such a sense of new experience as in this one week in India. Perhaps it is doing the same thing for him as it is doing for me. I do not "love" this country, I am not even "attracted" to it, but I feel it is a multitudinous sea in which one might shed one's personality.

February 28, Colombo

When we got here last night, Madeleine stretched back in her chair and, kicking off her shoes, said, "Well, I guess I like the small countries." We all knew what she meant. The complexity and sophistication of India, the grandeur of its monuments, the imperial touch, Mogul or British, all imposed their strain. Candians cannot quite stomach the excessive. Then, too, we are beginning to tire. From Government House to Government House, from dinner party to dinner party, from reception to reception, from interview to interview, from Bombay to Madras.

After Ceylon I gave up keeping this dairy. Some day I shall try to sort out my impressions of the rest of the trip. At the moment they're a jumple of unrelated details.

'Jakarta, with Sukarno boasting and posturing; the squalor of war-wrecked Seoul, bad oysters at dinner with horrible old Syngman Rhee, the visit to the Canadian troops at the front in Korea; Tokyo and lunch with the Emperor, where two silences met, the silence of the Prime Minister and the even more extensive silence of Emperor Hirohito, blinking through his thick-lensed glasses; the pointless visit to Manila

It was at Tokyo that the Prime Minister began to show signs of fatigue. From being tired he began to show signs of melancholy. He seemed austere and more abrupt. I am beginning to fear that this trip has been too much for him.

[Globe & Mail].

Export strategy for for African nations

Calcutta,[UNI]:India's commerce ministry is formulating an export strategy for the 50 non-Arab countries and one of the key components of the startegy is going to be a comprehensive credit package for these countries, reports the "Economic Times".

Plans are being made to open offices in Nairobi and Salisbury by Indi's State Trading Corporation (STC), in Liberia by the Trade Development Authority and in Ivory Coast by the Engineering Export Promotion Council.

During the five years from 1975-76, despite the low level of trade between India and the countries in this region, the balance of trade, except in 1976-77, was in favour of India. With individual countries like Ethiopia Mauritius, Malawi, Nigeria, Somalia, Swaziland, Uganda and Kenya, the balance has been consistently in India's favour. The major items of export to this region usually are engineering goods, cotton textiles chemicals and allied products, unmanufactured tobacco and some iron and steel items. Imports from this region mainly comprise precious and semi-precious stones, non-ferrous metals and raw cashew.

Project brings prosperity

Valpoi, a tiny, sleepy, backward village in Goa, today boasts of a unique project employing over 400 tribals and peasants who were earlier living in dire poverty.

The project called "Project Dioscorea", and sponsored over a decade ago by a leading pharmaceutical company, aims at growing medicinal plants to make a wide range of steroids, including oral contraceptives and other pills used for treating inflammations, toxicity, allergy and fibrosis.

Medicaments manufactured from the dioscorea tubers -- once found in abundance on the Himalayan slopes but now fast disappearing because of indiscriminate collection for insustrial uses -- offers treatment for every conceivable male and female hormone malfunction known to medicine, according to Dr.S.K.Wagh, a botanist working on the project.

Death of a "patreearch"

Trivandrum, [UNI]: Students of the University College campus here have set up a tomb for a tree that had sheltered generations of the fraternity.

The tree was dear to the students. When the college authorities decided to fell it, they opposed it vehemently. Eventually, the authorities had their way; the students mourned its "death". They have inscribed the words "silent valley" on the tombstone where the tree once stood and began sitting around it in silence for some time every day.

Fall of the South and rise of the North

[EXCERPTS FROM THE SIR WILLIAM MEYER ENDOWMENT LECTURE by Lewis Perinbam - Vice President Canadian International Development Agency on the theme "North and South: Towards a New Interdependence of Nations" at the University of Madras, India in August, 1981]

Part IV

[continued from the last issue]

The experience of the 1970s showed first, that in many developing countries big agricultural and industrial enterprises could not be relied on for job creation.

Second, small enterprises often use raw materials which would not otherwise be exploited thereby stimulating the growth of savings and local investments. Third, such enterprises provide the majority of jobs in manufacturing in several countries. Most of these firms employ less than 10 people and some as few as two.

Fourth, concerns the role of private foreign investment in the development process. I realize that this is a controversial subject. I suggest that it is too important to be ignored and or to be approached in a dogmatic way; and that it may be in the interest of the developing countries to explore its potential with an open mind for two reasons. First, it is unlikely that the developing countries will be able to obtain all the financing they require for their development from governments and international agencies. Given the present sluggishness in the world economy and the unfavourable climate for aid it would be unrealistic to expect significant increases in concessional financing, at least in the immediate future. This is simple realism and should not be interpreted as a lack of sympathy for the plight of the South. Second, it is the private sector and not governments which possesses much of the technology, expertise and experience which the developing countries need so desperately.

This brings me to the role of universities in the new interdependence. All over the world universities are in crisis. Faced with reduced budgets, student and faculty unrest and threatened by growing intervention by governments, many universities are either in a state of paralysis or are living in fear of their future. The traditional role of the university and its relevance in today's society are in question.

Universities

Yet, at no other time in history has the role of the university been more important than it is today. For, whatever its failings, it is one of the cornerstones of society. It was the anvil on which the ideas which shaped the modern world were forged, the engine of knowledge for generations of young people and the guardian of our cultural heritage. But the university must abandon the still lingering remnants of excessive traditionalism and adherence to the status quo which characterized its past. For the days when universities could retreat into isolationism for their security and count on privilege for their sustenance are over. Today's society does not tolerate the luxury of knowledge for its own sake; it requires knowledge to be applied to the service of humankind.

The world's present condition and the problems which beset it give universities an opportunity to be instruments of change. They can bring the benefits of science and technology to the world's toiling masses and help to build the human infrastructure for modern states. This will call for more inter-disciplinary and inter-professional studies and the cultivation of leaders who are capable of adapting and integrating knowledge for today's needs; and who will do so in ways which respect cultural traditions and social values.

If universities can do this, they will regain their position of influence. This is the task which faces our universities, and professors and students alike. The new university will not be the traditional one of the professors administering to their students; it will be one in which knowledge is shared, young minds are stimulated to think and to act and in which students and professors will work together in serving the societies which support them. The traditional notion that universities must be provided for, instead of providing for the community, must be reversed if universities are to be accepted as a relevant institution in the modern world.

Our world needs the universities for their ideas and imagination. They can be the heartbeat of the new interdependent society of the future and a beacon of hope and of light to the world's people. They can no longer be satisfied with imparting knowledge alone; they have also to prepare new generations for social responsibility in ways in which they have never dared to do. At the same time, they will be called upon increasingly to be constructive and fearless critics of governments.

India also has an opportunity given to few others, if any, to play an influential role in shaping the interdependent world that is emerging. As India belongs to the industrially advanced North, as well as to the economically underdeveloped South, she experiences every day the problems of growth as well as of poverty. Because of her cultural diversity, scientific achievements and historical experience, she can provide, as few other countries can, the kind of wise and seasoned leadership which could help the world to move away from the destructive postures of confrontation to the conciliatory and constructive paths of co-operation.

This will not be easy and is unlikely to lead to quick results. But if we are to re-kindle the hopes of mankind for a just and stable world, we must be unflagging in our efforts. This is not a matter in which the South can afford to expect the North to make all the concessions or vice versa; it is one in which both the North and the South can and must take initiatives. If the nations of the North and the South could blend their experiences and work towards limited but attainable objectives we may be able to edge forward, no matter how slowly, towards agreements on the vexing questions of reforms in the major trade, monetary and financial structures and institutions, which at present divide the North and South.

India could be a bridge between the North and the South. This is a frightening burden, but then throughout history, mankind has had to face and to overcome, no less awesome tasks.

The inter-dependent society of the future is a challenge to all of us. These are times of change when an old order is dying and a new order is struggling to be born. Times of change are times of danger: when old values and attitudes are threatened and the future is in doubt. They are also times of hope and of promise.

Our generation is living in one of the most exciting periods of human history. We see emerging before our eyes the faint outlines of a new world. As yet, that new world is shrouded in mist and we can see only its contours. But we can fashion it. We must do so in the image of freedom, equality and justice for the peoples of the world. That is what the new international economic order is all about. It is not a game for governments or a livelihood for bureaucrats. It is a challenge to us, as responsible citizens who care about each other, to lead us towards a new interdependent world community in which, to quote Bertrand Russell, "the creative spirit is alive, in which life is an adventure of hope and joy, based rather upon the impulse to construct than upon the desire to retain what we possess or to seize what is possessed by others."

The last part of the series.

Too many people

India's population is a staggering 683 million. The country added 135 million mouths in the 1971-81 decade. This means an addition of 13 million people a year. At this rate India, where 50 per cent of the people live below the poverty line, will have to feed 1,000 million mouths by the end of the century. The problem is colossal: too many people, too few resources.

by K.K. Duggal

New Delhi [UNI] - The Duke of Edinburgh suggested years ago that "perhaps the pill should be put in bread to curb population explosion."

The suggestion has a remarkable relevance for India whose population is jumping at the alarming rate of 13 million a year despite governmental efforts to check it.

The Indians need to put the pill not only in bread but also in rice and whatever they eat if they are not to be snowed under the avalanche of multiplying millions. For 50 per cent of the people are already living below the poverty line. And the other half are reeling under galloping inflation which has eroded their living standards.

The picture is gloomy.

The 1981 census shows that India's population has risen to a staggering 685 million from 548 million in 1971. This means an addition of 135 million in ten years of 13.5 million a year. This means that we are adding an Australia every year.

The thinking Indians are startled. Drastic maladies call for drastic remedies, they say. Some have suggested a statutory ceiling on the number of children.

Suggestions have been made that incentives like housing, reduced tax slabs and jobs should be offered to small families. Childless couples should be given old age security.

The planners realise that the population explosion is "more serious than any military invasion." The government's pledges to the people will remain paper pledges as long as the birth rate is not slashed. As Prime Minister Indira Gandhi once said: "To plan when population growth is unchecked is like building a house where the ground is constantly flooded."

India's annual birth rate is 3.6 per cent and death rate 1.4 per cent, leaving a growth rate of 2.2 per cent which is high for an overpopulated country. Demographers have warned that at the present rate India's population will cross 1,000 million by the end of the century.

The government aims to bring down the birth rate to 2.1 per cent by the turn of the century. But that is not enough. The problem of too many people and too few resources will continue until the birth rate drops to one per cent.

That is why the famed demographer, Dr. Sripati Chandrasekhar, one-time minister of family planning, advocated babyless years.

The Government's approach to the population problem has been half-hearted. It is afraid of hurting the orthodox people who believe children are a gift of God and mortals should not meddle with the Divine will.

For 20 years after independence the Government did little to curb population.

With Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, a Roman Catholic, as Minister of Health and Family Planning, the rhythm method was tried but it proved a big flop. People don't make love by the calendar. Even the doctors were not too sure of the efficacy of the rhythm cycle.

The Government took up the issue seriously only after Mrs Gandhi became the Prime Minister in 1966. She hand-picked Dr. Chandra Sekhar as Minister of Family Planning and placed sizeable funds at his disposal to try out what he called the cafeteria approach. An assortment of contraceptives, such as sheaths, loops, vasectomy and tubectomy, were offered to the married couples and they could have their pick as they do in a self-service cafeteria. Monetary incentives were offered to men opting for sterilisation. But not much headway was made as the males shied away from vasectomy, the cheapest and most effective contraceptive.

Later abortion was legalised but that too did not make much dent on the population growth.

Sterilisations were carried out in right earnest only during the Emergency years of 1975 and 1976. The credit for this goes mainly to Sanjay Gandhi who pursued his five-point programme, of which family planning and grow-more-trees were of great significance, with vigour and zeal. But it gave a handle to the opposition parties to lambast the Government and rouse popular anger against it.

Mrs. Gandhi lost the 1977 election to the Janata party, a conglomeration of disparate groups, which made capital out of "forcible" sterilisations and demolition of slums. The family planning programme received a serious setback during the two and half years of Janata rule.

After her return to power in 1980 Mrs. Gandhi is going slow on family planning.

The Government claims that 37 million births have been averted in the past decade, but that is "no more than a drop of relief in an ocean of distress." The population problem is colossal and it admits of no soft options.

FILMS

DERA AASHOQAN DA

Directed by Pawan Dev

Produced by R Agarwal

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FILMS

DERA AASHQAN DA

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The success of "popular" Punjabi plays in the Capital has given fillip to many ambitions. A number of drama groups want to film their plays. **Chadhi Jawani Buddhe Noo** was, perhaps, the first Punjabi play to be filmed. It had technical finesse as its producer was one of the topmost film-makers in Bombay, F C Mehra's Eagle Productions.

Two other attempts have been made in Delhi. **Gorakhdhanda**, featuring mostly artistes of the Punjabi stage in Delhi, was shot entirely in Delhi and its screenplay was written to fit the commercial mould. **Chaska** ...is a photoplay of a "popular" Punjabi play.

Dera Aashqan Da is the fourth, partly shot in Delhi and presented by a local drama group, Deepkala. Certainly it is not a celluloid rehash of a "bold" Punjabi play though Deepkala staged a play with a similar title, some years ago, yet the film has had a few risque lines and is not without double entendres. An amateurish attempt, with many technical flaws (beginning with the over-written titles themselves), its storyline is not unfamiliar to filmgoers. Its claim to preach a certain message - Old values are to be cherished, and not condemned outright - should not be thrust upon the unwilling younger generation who should rather be made to understand them.

The cast is a mixture of Bombay cine stars and Delhi stage artistes. Satish Kaul is the hero in love with a city co-ed (Padmini Kapila), though his father (a village sarpanch) had promised to marry him to the only duahgter (a buxom village belle) of his pal (a rich zamindar of an adjacent village). One knows the conflict. The boy refuses to have anything to do with his father's promise. Sonia Sahni and Rajindra Nath (owner of a "honeymoon Hotel") are for comic sequences and dancing sisters, Jayashree and Meena To, do a bhangra number.

Many Delhi-ites are connected with **Dera Aashqan Da** - Story by Abrar Kidwai, assistant commissioner of sales-tax; dialogues by Nayyar Asmi, a Delhi-ite who has directed and produced his own Bhojpuri film. In not so minor roles it has many Delhi stage artistes: B K Sood (a village sarpanch), Neelam Rai (the village belle), Ashok Prabhakar, K L Batra and Pawan Dev, the director himself in a comic role. Along with the director two more people get their break: Shabab Allawalpuri (lyrics) and Prem Gupta (music director). One would be able to spot many Delhi landmarks, as part of the film was shot in the capital. As the film took its own time to be released in Delhi, Pawan Dev's second directorial attempt, **Dera Lambran Da**, is ready.

Technique is the essence of cinema-craft. Pawan Dev would be nowhere but for his chief assistant director: Minnie Thakur. **Chann Pardesi**, winner of this year's best Punjabi film award in the National Film Festival, is perhaps the best Punjabi film produced so far, technically and dramatically. It is directed by Chitrartha Singh, a Delhi boy, who trained himself at the Pune Film Institute and later worked with a few topmost film-makers before venturing on his own. Ambitious drama groups in Delhi must assure themselves of better technical facilities before venturing out to squander money on filming their plays, "popular" or avantgared.

DARSHAK in Democratic World

CHHUPPA CHHUPPI

Directed by S. Taluqedar

Produced by Arun Jaitly

By profession Arun Jaitly is an architect. When he shifted his professional activities from Delhi to Bombay, he came into contact with many film-makers and artistes who inspired him with the idea of making a film. When he set about it, he found that he is good at comedies. So he wrote a plot, signed S Taluqedar and gave him a chance to direct his first independent film **Chuppa Chuppi**. He also got around a new team of music directors - Bhuvan-Hari. For his cast he selected a number of comedians who took to the spirit of the comedy and performed their roles with above average comic sense.

The plot is interesting: A private detective is more a bungler than a methodical investigator. His bunglings are actually his assets. He engages a runaway girl as his private secretary for whose search and find he is promised a fee of Rs 50,000 which he needs badly to pay for an orphan's medical treatment. When details about the missing girl are communicated to him, he does not in the least suspect that his secretary is the runaway girl. The girl willingly becomes a stranger and helps him locate her. This involves the private eye, his secretary and his side-kick in a number of funny situations and a few dangerous ones too. The girl's identity is finally revealed and she gives him Rs 50,000. Of course the secretary has taken a fancy to the private detective, for all his faults, and they get married.

Deven Varma, a polished comedian of the Hindi screen, plays the bungling detective with a certain relish yet not all his jokes come across the screen. Aruna Irani, a one-time comedienne who has now taken to serious and dancing roles, still shows her comic vigour. Indira Kumar, making his debut on the Hindi screen, has a lot of comical potential in him and he should develop it to advantage. Other comedians, playing a variety of roles, are: Paintal, Sunder, Keshto Mukherjee, Bhagwan, Tun Tun, Shammi. Satyen Kappu is the leader of a gang of smugglers. Aparna is his moll. Helen does a cabaret number with her usual artistry. Seema Deo is the head of an orphanage. Madan Puri plays the runaway girl's father, sympathetic to her wilful designs.

PREM GEET

Directed By Sudesh Issar

Produced by Pawan Kumar and Dr. Lakhan Sinha

Prem Geet is literally a song of love between two souls - a poet-singer and a danseuse who interprets him in dance without knowing who he is. And when he hears her singing his poems and dancing to them, he falls in love with her.

They get married. The girl is a cancer patient, without her knowing about it. Her dying declaration to her husband is not to remain single but to marry the girl who loved him.

The first half, as one could guess, is romance, the second half is sentiments and melodrama. Though its screenplay is long for its love triangle the dialogues are very appropriate to the characters. Prem Jullundury, the dialogue writer, tries to use similes here and there. Music by Ghazal-singing team of Jagjit Singh and Chitra has lot of rhythm. Sudesh Issar, the director, has matured since his Sauda attempt. K R Murthy's cinematography is of a high order but not of the class of Ek Duuje Ke Liye.

The surprise of the film is a new-find, Anita Raj, who has the makings of a great artiste. She is not camera-conscious and at times Raj Babbar seems to feel an inferiority complex in her presence. In her first film, **Prem Geet**, Anita Raj shows lot of confidence and the rapport she establishes with the camera has taken many others, years. Her freshness, height and her pleasant postures are surely going to be of great help in making her career brilliant.

No cricket with U.K.

The upcoming winter's proposed cricket tour of India by England seems headed towards cancellation.

In a cable reportedly sent to London, the India Cricket Board of Control reiterated its stand and is now saying that the tour could only go ahead now if Geoff Boycott and Geoff Cook, who have playing and coaching links with South Africa, were dropped from England's team.

A statement by the English Test and County Cricket Board in London said this would not be possible.

If both sides hold firm to their stands the result could be cancelled - no play.

By Dick Lochan, Our Toronto representative.

Kerala film development

By P.K. Nair

Trivandrum, [UNI] - With about half a dozen films, including one in Hindi, scheduled for shooting, the partially commissioned 5.3-million dollar Chitranjali Film Studio owned by the Kerala State Film Development Corporation (KSFDC) here is humming with activity.

Among the shooting schedules are those by renowned film makers like Adoor Gopalakrishnan, G. Aravindan and M.T. Vasudevan Nair, who all have won international recognition and laurels for the Malayalam cinema. With all the four outdoor units booked by various producers till March next, the authorities have now proposed to acquire three more units.

In another three months, the studio will be equipped with colour processing laboratory and every aspect of film-making, including music recording, editing and dubbing.

KSFDC Chairman K.T. Mohammed said the Corporation had begun producing monthly newsreels for the State Government and half a dozen of them have already been released to the theatres. It has eight documentaries under production.

The Corporation has drawn up a 687,500-dollar scheme for promotion of audio visual education at pre-university level to produce about 60 - 16 mm educational films a year to be screened in schools at fortnightly intervals. As many as 400 high schools of the State out of the total number of about 2,000 are equipped with 16mm projectors.

The film archives of the Corporation plan to organise film festivals in major cities where diploma films of the students of the National Institute for Films and Television, Pune, as well as award winning Malayalam films would be screened with a view to encouraging film appreciation.

The Corporation's chain of theatres, linking major towns of the State, is fast coming up and about a dozen of them would be ready for commercial screening in about sixteen months. Once equipped with screening facilities over the length and breadth of the State, the Corporation hopes to enter the most competitive field of film distribution and exhibition, which in itself is expected to give a fillip to the production of what is called new wave cinema as distinct from purely entertainment films. A number of black and white films now relegated to shelves after being rejected by the exhibition network flooded with a boom of technicolour extravaganzas could then be brought out and screened, Chairman K. T. Mohammed hopes.

Chithranjali, located on a sprawling, elevated 30-hectare land at Thiruvallam, about nine kilometres from the centre of the city, was formally inaugurated in June 1980 when Chief Minister E.K. Nayanar opened the recording studio, the first completed block of the big studio.

The entire complex consists of the studio (shooting) floor, claimed to be the biggest in the country, recording theatre and the laboratory and editing rooms. It has a preview theatre, which can seat 100 persons.

According to M. Kochunarayanan, Managing Director, recordings began some time in October 1980 and since April this year the recording studios have continuously been booked. Similarly, the laboratory and editing rooms too have been under heavy booking since June this year.

Full equipment for colour processing would be installed and colour processing started before the end of this year, Lochunarayanan says.

Indian films in Pak

Lahore, [UNI]: Pakistan had imposed a ban on Indian films to protect its own film industry. But anyone who stays around a while can see as many Indian films, the latest ones, as one wants. But one has to have the right contact. These films are shown in the privacy of the home -- the homes of the rich who have the video.

A video costs as much as Rs.50,000. However, many people in Pakistan own videos, thanks to the the prosperity ushered in by the Gulf remittances, a whopping two billion dollars a year.

Well, if you don't have a rich friend and are dying to "hear" an Indian box-office hit like "Sholay" all you have to do is to walk down to Anarkali and ask the music shop to play the Sholay cassette, you will hear the roar and sadistic laughter of dacoit Gabbar Singh or the dialogue between Sanjiv Kumar and Amita Bachchan. In fact, you can hear the voice of any Indian film star or any song of your choice from the large collection of cassettes many music shops in Anarkali.

Pakistanis are madly in love with Indian films and stars. Many young men want to come to Bombay just to see their favourite heroes and heroines.

Cave paintings in central India

New Delhi, [UNI] - Cave paintings bearing evidence of having been done thousands of years before present, have been discovered in the sprawling central Indian state of Madhya Pradesh.

Carbon dating has shown that they are as old as some of the prehistoric rock paintings in Europe.

Turban and beard no uniform

By Dick Lochan

Toronto: A Sikh cab driver has lodged a complaint with the Ontario Human Rights Commission claiming he was fired because of his turban and beard.

The Air Flight Cab company of Markham, Ontario, allegedly fired him because his attire was not in accordance with their dress code.

Amarjit Takia, (minus his beard and turban), worked for the company for a year. But lately he grew back his beard and put his turban back on.

A spokesman for the cab company said that they have had a dress code for almost 10 years prohibiting beards and non-regulation headgear. He went on to say that they are advertised as a uniformed taxi service and men are required to wear tan trousers and brown jackets. He further added that people like to see their drivers dressed as professionals and that a turban is not really part of their uniform.

Hidayatulla in Montreal

By Thomas Panakal

M.Hidayatulla, India's Vice-President paid a brief visit to Montreal as a first step of his official tour of Canada.

The Montreal branch of NACOI and India-Canada Association gave him a joint reception at the airport Hilton. Well over hundred persons attended the lunch time affair. A good number of federal and provincial leaders also took part in this reception.

In Ottawa Mr. Hidayatulla met with several Canadian officials and also attended two receptions - one by the Indian Caommunity at the Chateau Laurier and another by the Indian Highcommissioner at his residence.

Move to conserve forests

New Delhi (UNI) - India's forests, occupying over 20 per cent of the land mass and threatened with gradual destruction, are being sought to be preserved through governmental efforts.

Indo-Canadians divided on visa

Indo-Canadians were sharply divided in their reaction to the announcement by the Immigration Minister that Indian visitors will be asked to obtain visas before landing in Canada.

In a Canadian Press story, Shiv Chopra, secretary of the National Association of Canadians of Origins in India (NACOI) said all Indians in Canada are "vehemently" opposed to the new rule announced. On the other hand Mrs. Aleyamma Samuel of the Canadian India Times felt that many Indians support the visa requirement because they feel the actions of a segment of the community caused great harm to the whole Indian community.

"The behaviour of a minority is harming our already tarnished reputation," she said. Mrs. Samuel also said there is no refugee situation in India and this kind of activities must be bringing a lot of embarrassment to the government of India as well. The visa requirement will certainly cause a great deal of inconvenience to the genuine visitors from different parts of India she added.

In a letter to the editor to the Globe and Mail, Ajit Jain of Toronto pointed out that "even though the move appears to be discriminatory, Ottawa has no way out when intentions of many 'tourists' are not to return home. The entry permit system was introduced by the British authorities for East Indians some years back. It was done for the reason that has now forced the hand of Ottawa".

Many Indo-Canadians in different parts of Canada show the same split views on the issue.

It is understood that apart from 14 additional local employees hired new immigration officers have been sent to India to deal with the increased workload.

Eid celebrated

By Dick Lochan

Toronto: Ontario Muslim Association held prayer services followed by a sacrificial slaughter of bulls, lambs and other animals in commemoration of Eid-ul-Adha - the feast of the sacrifice.

The prayer services were held at Earl Bales Community Centre and the slaughter at Clinton Street Abatoir.

The feast commemorates the covenant of God and Abraham as revealed in the Koran. The scriptures relate that God ordered Abraham to sacrifice his son as a test of obedience. Abraham submitted but God spared the child.

It is estimated that there are 50,000 Muslims in Metro Toronto.

Khalistan stand discounted

Vancouver - Sikhs in British Columbia who are plotting to annex the Punjab state from India are merely using religion as a political tool, a senior official from Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Government said. "There is no cause for concern," L.K. Jha said in an interview from the Cancun summit conference. "We are aware of the group in Vancouver and the unrest that started in Canada, not in our country."

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Frank Drea, Minister

William Davis, Premier

Kamala the new

Kamalahasan, the young South Indian star has taken the Bombay film industry by storm with his maiden Hindi film "Ek Duuje Ke Liye" which is doing very well at the box office. His dream of acting in Hindi films to get "a real break" has come true and he is well set to become a super-star. Producers keep knocking at his door to sign him up since the release of the movie which revolves round two young lovers whose parents have their own views on matrimony between a South Indian boy and a North Indian girl.

by B.N.Kumar

Bombay, [UNI]: Kamalahasan has joined the rat race! Before making his debut in Hindi films, the South Indian sensation had acted in over one hundred films and at least one of his films is being released every month.

The youthful round-eyed star of medium height has scaled new heights with the roaring success of his maiden Hindi film "Ek Duuje Ke Liye", a box office hit. In fact, Kamalahasan (man with the "lotus smile"(, with his unforgettable lover's roles, has become a household name for teenage lovers and "pairs in colleges".

Perhaps, this is the only film after "Sholay" which has created a box-office record. Even after 17 weeks of its running to packed houses, one has to either wait in serpentine queues for hours or shell out six times the regular rate to get a ticket. And this appears to be the only film after "Albela" to make audience fling coins at the screen and dance to the tune of haunting music.

Kamalahasan's disco dance in a lift, his acrobats on a mobike and the confidence with which he speaks Hindi in the South Indian accent draw "wow ... how cute ..." cries from girls in the audience.

Trade circles say that the film, remake of "Maro Charitra" (another history) in Telugu, has created history.

What does Kamalahasan think of all this? He is ,expectedly, proud of it and says "I never had any doubt about the film's success. Maro Charitra was a big hit all over the South".

Kamalahasan began acting -- believe it or not -- at the age of five. Between 1973 and 1980 he acted in nearly 100 films. At 27 he has already become a difficult-to-reach star. The man who used to dream of acting in Hindi films "one day" to get a "real break", now makes frequent business trips to Bombay and just vanishes to the South before anybody comes to know of his presence here. "I have several commitments in the South, you see." During one of his lighting visits when I managed to trap him he said "I am at R.K. Studios just a few days. I can meet you there provided you have the patience to wait on the sets.

Kamalahasan has almost completed his second Hindi

Kamalahasan: the new craze

Kamalahasan, the young South Indian star has taken the Bombay film industry by storm with his maiden Hindi film "Ek Duuje Ke Liye" which is doing very well at the box office. His dream of acting in Hindi films to get "a real break" has come true and he is well set to become a super-star. Producers keep knocking at his door to sign him up since the release of the movie which revolves round two young lovers whose parents have their own views on matrimony between a South Indian boy and a North Indian girl.

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Kamalahasan has almost completed his second Hindi film "Sanam Teri Kasem" being made by Barkha Roy.

This interview went on in the hustle and bustle of the studio with dozens of admirers around.

"What is your aim? Do you want to become a super star of Bombay? I asked him.

"No, no. Superstars fade away quickly. I want to be a good actor". He is modest. He simply says he is "yet to scale any heights." He has five films on hand. "I believe in one at a time. And slow and steady ..., he does not complete the sentence.

What type of roles does he prefer?

"I like all good roles. But I am keeping a balance with commercial films to sustain myself in the industry." He acts in films being made in all the four South Indian languages.

Gossip has it that Kamalahasan has already started dictating terms. He names his price. He wants the heroine of his choice.According to industry sources, his price has shot up from Rs.400,000 to Rs.1300,000 after the success of "Ek Duuje Ke Liye".

He refuses to be drawn into any discussion over his reported rift with Rekha, the South Indian star.

Meanwhile, one of the boys on the sets comes and askes "Kamal Saab, Ready"? And he jumps for a fight sequence with Ranjeet!

10th anniversary of multiculturalism

Ottawa: At the invitation of Jim Fleming, the Minister for Multiculturalism, about 3,000 people were entertained to a cultural show, free booze and delicious snacks at the National Arts Centre on October 25th. Among them were Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, his three sons and politicians at all levels, civil servants and representatives from various ethnic groups.

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The event celebrated the 10th anniversary of the policy of multiculturalism announced by the Prime Minister Trudeau. At that time Mr. Trudeau pointed out that there is no official culture that takes precedence over any other in Canada. A policy of multiculturalism within a bilingual framework should help to break down discriminatory attitudes and cultural jealousies. The policy accepts the contention of the other cultural communities that they are essential elements in Canada also. They seek new ways to contribute to regional and national life, ways that derive from their various heritages yet are distinctively Canadian.

The cultural program for the evening, was not exactly appropriate for the occasion. Thinly-clad women on stage jumping and howling in English and French were not an essential part of multiculturalism, many felt.

Their performance would have been more appropriate in the celebration of a biculturalism policy. Perhaps, that is where multiculturalism is leading us!

Flamingoes boycott

Madras, [UNI]:Point Calimere, one of the richest wintering ground for migratory birds in the Indian peninsula, is facing the threat of a boycott by the flamingoes, whose annual visit in thousands made this sanctuary famous.Over 40,000 flamingoes had been recorded in the peak season in November last year.The sanctuary was resounding with the cry of birds, with fresh flights arriving each day.

Coral threatened

Baroda, [UNI]:Live coral formations and mangrove vegetation, in the Gulf of Kutch in the Arabian Sea, are threatened by the floating oil terminal set up in the area by the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC).

This is revealed in a report "On Approaches to Conservation Strategy for Gujarat" presented at a seminar held under the joint auspices of the State Forest Department and the World Wildlife Fund - India. Besides being a rare and fast disappearing species, coral reefs associated with mangrove vegetation have a high economic and biological value as they provide rich breeding and feeding grounds for fishes and other marine life.

A lot of damage has been caused by the extraction of huge quantities of calcareous sand

Maya staging at Carleton

Maya, a classical dance drama in Sanskrit by Professor V. Subramaniam will be staged in Theatre A, Southam Hall, Carleton University on Friday, November 20th at 8:30 p.m.. The performance employs three classical styles of dancing, the chief dancers being Asha Singh (Odissi), Pavitra and Gita (Bharata Natyam) and Professor V.K. Chari (Kathakali). A live orchestra directed by Professor Subramaniam will provide vocal and instrumental music.

The performance is sponsored by the Asian Studies Committee and CUSO BIPS, a South Asian Students Organization, both of Carleton University.

Maya is based on the story of the birth of Lord Buddha. The original account in the Pali canon and **Buddha Charita** simply describes how Maya, Queen of King Suddhodana was on her way with her friends to her father's place and while sporting in the Lumbini garden with them gave birth to the Great One. The structure of the drama provides enormous scope for group dancing and interpretative individual dancing in all the three classical styles.

Maya is taken from Subramaniam's first book of dance dramas **Pancha Kanya Tarangini** released in 1975. It was choreographed and staged many times in India in Bharata Natyam style. The November 20th performance will be its North American premiere.

Tickets priced at $2.00 are obtainable from India Food Centre on Somerset Street, Room 271, Herzberg Building, Chatrapati Singh (234-7964) and at the door on November 20th at 7:30 p.m.

THE WINTER OF MY BEING

As darkness creeps in,
And coldness freezes me;
My heart sinks into a thousand fathom
Of despairs past and new.

I search for gold amidst
The powdered snow that thickens
And my feet sink and slip
As I gasp for breath and search.

As I pass into the night
Through the twilight of my dreams
Haunted by the ghosts
Of longings crushed in Spring

Of palmolives and tender hands
Of little feet and dark blue eyes
Of little things and thatched gray huts
Of all of mine I couldn't hold.

I feel a thud within my heart
As caught in search I behold
The winter night surrounding me
In wilderness I'll never pass.

By George Isaac

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Diwali Mela in Ottawa

The India Canada Association held its fourth Diwali Mela at Borden High School on Saturday 24th October.

About 1200 people participated in the event. Numerous stalls were set up by organizations and individuals and everything from food to fun was available for those who were willing to pay.

A cultural program was part of the Mela. In the first part of the program there were performances by Natyanjali directed by Vasanthi Srinivasan, recitation dance by Deshantari (Bengali Association), Bharata Natyam by South India Cultural Association, a drama "Chittoor" directed by J.C. Gupta, scenes from Ramayan directed by Asha Singh, Garba (Gujarati dance) by teenagers and pooja by Merivale Hindi Vidyalay.

The second part of the program consisted of solo dances by Dipti Gupta, Vrinda Bhagwat and Ranjana Kumar, Qawali by Jaswider Bhoi and Party, semi classical dances by Renuka Sahay Dance School. Diwali festivities in the temple by Mukul (Hindi School) and Raas by Gujarati Multicultural Association.

The chief guest was the High Commissioner of India and Anil Verma was master of ceremonies.

Elected

REGINA [Sask]: Ramesh C. Airi, a well-known member of the East Indian community in the city was recently elected President of the Regina North constituency of the Provincial New Democratic Party. Mr.Airi, the first East Indian to hold the party office in Regina, is a long-time resident of the city.

He received M.A. and a Bachelor of Teaching degree in India where he taught at a college. Mr.Airi is a leading cultural activities organizer, expecially in the area of Vedic and other Hindu religious celebrations.

Girl allowed to stay

By Thomal Panakal

Montreal: Eleven-year-old Dharmishtaben Patel can stay in Canada.

Earlier her uncle and aunt, the girl's adoptive parents, had expected deportation from Montreal. Federal officials have now allowed her to live in Canada after studying the case carefully.

Immigration Minister Lloyd Axworthy made the decision personally. After reviewing the case, Dharmishtaben's situation was considered bona fide.

The Indian girl will receive a special permit which will allow her to stay in the country for at least six months pending formal arrangements.

Before the permit expires she will have to cross the United States border. This would allow her uncle to comply with the existing rule which requires anyone applying for immigrant status to apply from outside Canada.

Dharmishtaben Patel's father is a school teacher in Bombay. She came to Montreal last December to visit Jayantilal and Minaxiben Patel, her uncle and aunt. They adopted her in April.

Dharmishtaben Patel is currently enrolled in a French-language school in Montreal.

Badminton ace: Padukone

By Suhas Agashe

New Delhi,[UNI]:For years India has produced high-class badminton players, but no one has been as consistent in top class as Prakash Padukone.

His namesake,Prakash Nath, was the only other Indian badminton player to reach the finals of the all-England Championship, way back in 1947. It was in that year that India sent its players for the first time to participate in the unofficial championship. Prakash Nath and his fellow-countryman Devinder Mohan were slated to play the semi finals but they refused to play against each other and tossed. Prakash made to the finals but lost to the Swedish T Jepson.

Prakash Padukone won the all-England championship in 1980. Even before winning this title, he had reigned supreme at home.

But Prakash had a slow rise in the international arena mainly due to lack of experience.

Nadu Natekar from the western state of Maharashtra also lacked the power but made to the top with all the grace on the court.

Another player, Dinesh Ghosh, was never graceful but was called "the returning machine" by critics. It was this ability that got him the Asian Badminton (Singles) Championship.

In 1978, Prakash annexed the Commonwealth Gold in the singles at Edmonton and went on to win the Evening of Champions Trophy in London.In 1980 he became the first Indian to win the all-England Championship and was declared the unofficial world champion. Earlier, he has won the Swedish and Danish open. Prakash will meet, once again, international players at the International Prize Money Tournament at Pune this month.

Andhra expands fishing

New Delhi [UNI] - The South Indian state of Andhra Pradesh is procuring two large-sized deep-sea fishing trawlers from the Soviet Union

GROWING TOGETHER

Canadians. They come from diverse cultural backgrounds, and from many parts of Canada. They are living and growing together as proud citizens of our magnificent country.

Ten years ago the government formally recognized the cultural diversity of this great land of ours when it formulated the Multiculturalism policy.
This was a new commitment to the growing development and enhancement of the spirit of understanding between the many heritages that have formed our nation.

GROWING TOGETHER
ANNIVERSARY
10
ANNIVERSAIRE
S'ÉPANOUIR ENSEMBLE

Our commitment to Multiculturalism is stronger in this tenth anniversary year than it has ever been. And tomorrow will be even brighter.
So join us in our celebration of the past, the present and the future — a future that will continue to bring us all a better understanding of ourselves and of our country...growing together.

Canada

Minister of State Multiculturalism · Ministre d'État Multiculturalisme

KITCHE
by P

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Dining out can be an en
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of various nationalities
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Restaurants opened at an
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others.
Robson Street, just minu
offers a wide variety of
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French restaurant, offers
Le Bristol, also on Robs
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and the price of a restaur
street. It offers a varied
guaranteed to satisfy th
ordered B.C. Salmon, poa
with cream cheese; Corn
Cordon Bleu. Each dish
balls and fresh green, p
with Hollandaise sauce.
inch square piece, was
salmon I have ever eaten
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rice. The Veal Cordon B
India Gate, an Ind
Vancouver, claims to ser
city. We tested three
Lamb and Prawn. While
would recommend that
want great Indian food.
ing Indian restaurants in
and Shehnau, which
dishes. No I will share
Salmon recipe which I
Vancouver.

Barbecued Stuffe

½ cup dry white wine
½ cup lemon juice
½ cup cooking oil
1 medium onion, choppe
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 tsp. ginger
½ tsp. thyme
1 tsp. salt
¼ tsp. tabasco sauce
1 salmon about 5½ pou
1 cup cooked rice (mixe
¼ cup chopped green o

In a small saucepan, co
for marinade; bring to
pan, cool. Clean the sal
inside and out. Score t
inch deep cuts diagon
marinade, turning to m
covered, 6 hours, turni
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marinade.
Mix rice and green oni
mixture, closing openin
Over coals on a barbec
broil salmon 4 inches
side, brushing freque
until salmon is lightly
servings.

Interesting Indo-Canadia

Vinod K. Sood, an I
Canadian, is the pres
of Finning Tractor and
ipment Company Ltd.
largest caterpillar deal
North America. The
conver-based company
an almost unbroken re
of profit growth for a
cade. The company's
ual revenue exceed h
billion dollars a year.
Sood is 46 and is
company's chief oper
officer.

KITCHEN KORNER
by Pranati SenGupta

THE FLAVOUR OF B.C.

Dining out can be an enjoyable experience, particularly in large cosmopolitan centres with numerous restaurants of various nationalities to choose from. Recently, we spent several days in Vancouver, the bustling, multicultural city of Canada's West Coast.

British Columbia's history is closely linked with the story of the foods that both land and sea have provided for its people.

The first settlers of this land (Indians) lived by the wealth of fresh sea food. Much later, the Europeans came and farmed the land for the first time raising domestic animals and planting gardens. However, for a long period of time, the best of good eating was limited to private homes, some clubs and some hotel dining rooms.

Suddenly it all changed with a flood of Chinese immigrants and their well-known culinary expertise. Restaurants opened at an incredible rate and offered the best natural products of the sea. Soon an intense competition developed to produce a higher level of cuisine not only amongst the Chinese but also amongst others.

Robson Street, just minutes from downtown Vancouver, offers a wide variety of European restaurants to choose from. For instance, La Cote D'azur, Vancouver's oldest French restaurant, offers a wide selection of French fare. Le Bristol, also on Robson Street, serves good French food as well. We really enjoyed the food, atmosphere and the price of a restaurant called Puffin's on the same street. It offers a varied menu for gastronomic delight, guaranteed to satisfy the most discerning palate. We ordered B.C. Salmon, poached in champagne and frosted with cream cheese; Cornish hen with wild rice and Veal Cordon Bleu. Each dish came with deep fried potato balls and fresh green, perfectly cooked broccoli served with Hollandaise sauce. My boneless salmon steak, a 3 inch square piece, was unequivocally the best flavored salmon I have ever eaten. The Cornish hen was braised to a golden brown perfection and served on a bed of wild rice. The Veal Cordon Bleu was classic.

India Gate, an Indian restaurant in downtown Vancouver, claims to serve the best Indian food in the city. We tested three different Biryanies - Chicken, Lamb and Prawn. While the food there was very good, I would recommend that you visit Victoria if you really want great Indian food. It boasts of several award-winning Indian restaurants including Shah Jahan, Taj Mahal and Shehnau, which offer excellent mouthwatering dishes. No I will share with you my Barbecued Stuffed Salmon recipe which I collected during my visit to Vancouver.

Barbecued Stuffed Salmon

1 cup dry white wine
½ cup lemon juice
½ cup cooking oil
1 medium onion, chopped
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 tsp. ginger
½ tsp. thyme
1 tsp. salt
¼ tsp. tabasco sauce
1 salmon about 5½ pounds
1 cup cooked rice (mixed brown and long grain)
¼ cup chopped green onion

In a small saucepan, combine the first nine ingredients for marinade; bring to boil. Pour into a large shallow pan, cool. Clean the salmon, remove head and tail; wash inside and out. Score the salmon by making several ¼ inch deep cuts diagonally in the skin. Place in the marinade, turning to moisten both sides. Refrigerate, covered, 6 hours, turning occasionally. Remove salmon from marinade, pat dry with paper towels. Reserve marinade.

Mix rice and green onions. Loosely fill salmon with rice mixture, closing opening with skewers and kitchen cord. Over coals on a barbecue or under a broiler in a stove, broil salmon 4 inches from heat about 15 minutes per side, brushing frequently with reserved marinade, or until salmon is lightly browned and flakes easily. 8 servings.

Interesting Indo-Canadians

Vinod K. Sood, an Indo-Canadian, is the president of Finning Tractor and Equipment Company Ltd., the largest caterpillar dealer in North America. The Vancouver-based company has an almost unbroken record of profit growth for a decade. The company's annual revenue exceed half a billion dollars a year. Mr. Sood is 46 and is the company's chief operating officer.

Madras, [UNI]: Catamarans, traditional fishing crafts used widely by fishermen on the Coromandel coast of Tamil Nadu, are diminishing due to non-availability of logs.

Pot Luck Brunch

A successful pot luck dinner on September 18 organised by the Indo-Canadian Community Centre, Ottawa, at the Centre has given lot encouragement to have another one similar to that.

This time it is going to be a brunch on November 15th, at 11:30 a.m at the Centre, 1346 Bank St.

After the meal sit around, relax, play cards, ping pong, Karams, chess etc, according to your own interest.

Advance booking is a must. Call Aleyamma Samuel at 733-9422 [evenings] or Vasanthi Srinivasan at 829-0504.

Scholarship won

Vivek Rao,14, son of Mr & Mrs.P.A.M.Rao of Burlington, Ontario, won in a nationwide open competition the W.C.Merritt Knowlson Scholarship enabling him to pursue studies for five years at Upper Canada College in Toronto.

Earlier in 1981, he also gained the Canadian Chief Scout's award for meritorious service as a Boy Scout.

Vivek was born in Bangalore and emigrated to Canada with his parents and younger brother Vikram ten years ago.

Hindi play presented

Ottawa: Dhong, a Hindi play written by Romesh Mehta was presented on October 30 by Mukul Hindi School, at Ridgemont High School.

Directed by Madan Gopal, the cast included Ritu Bhola (Rangeeli), Pawan Sethi (Rangeela), Shri Gopal, Prat Pratibha Sampat, Kamlesh Gupta, Ranjana Kumar, Dharam Vir Savitri Khanna and Sham Ahuja.

Eight hijackings

New Delhi, [UNI]:The hijacking of an Indian Airlines plane to Lahore on September 29 with 117 people on board was the eighth such incident in the subcontinent in a decade.

Four of them involved Indian Airlines aircraft, two involved Pakistani International Airlines and one each of Nepal and Japan.

One of hijacked planes was destroyed by the air pirates. Only in one case did hijackers kill a hostage.

They were elected:

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Vice President: R.K. Avinashi
Gen. Secretary: Mrs. Arati Chattopadhyay
Treasurer: K. Krishan
Social Secretary: G. Harrison
Members-at-large: Mrs. U. Lakhanpal, K. Turnbet
Past President: R. Singh

Nuclear plant leaks

New Delhi - An Indian atomic power reactor in the desert state of Rajasthan developed a serious leak that means it may have to be shut down for perhaps a year. The reactor, at the Kota Atomic Power Plant developed "a serious leak and it may take six months to one year to repair the defect," the Press Trust of India News Agency said. A spokesman of the Indian Department of Atomic Energy said he was unaware of any leak at the Kota Plant, adding that "the plant is shut down periodically for checks. I've seen no reports of any injuries."

Marriages of convenience?

By Dick Lochan

Fines totalling $2,900 were levied against five people charged with falsifying statements under Canada's Immigration Act in order to ease immigration procedure into Canada for two people from India.

Dalip Cheema, 42, of Brantford, Nanak Dhaliwal, 28, of Brantford, Kawal Pathak, 35, of Windsor, Sabu Grandham, 36, of Toronto, and Balbir Atllee, 21, of Brantford, were all charged in set-up marriages between Indian visitors and Canadians in order to secure landed-immigrant status in Canada.

Combat planes bought

News out of Paris reported that India has just completed a $5.5-billion dollar deal to buy France's Mirage 2000 combat aircraft. The deal culminated talks between defence officials of both countries. Negotiations had been going on for two years. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi is expected to sign the contract when she visits France starting November 12th. The aircraft, it is reported, flies at twice the speed of sound and is designed to carry tactical nuclear missiles.

Dick Lochan,
Toronto.

NACOI opens office

By Thomas Panakal

Montreal: NACOI (National Association of Canadians of Origins in India(has opened a new office in the central part of the city. The association now has about 100 members in Montreal to its credit. Seven Indian organizations are currently affiliated with the chapter.

According to Vincent Planthara, President of Montreal chapter, "the association's main objective is to coordinate various civic activities of the Indian community in Montreal.

Mrs. Gandhi in Montreal

Montreal: Prime Minister Indira Gandhi made a stopover in Montreal on her way to Cancun, Mexico to attend the twenty-two nation conference on world poverty.

She spent the night at a hotel near Mirabel International airport before proceeding to Mexico.

High Commissioner J.S. Dhillon greeted the Indian leader at the airport. She also met with the leaders of the Indian community in Montreal.

Mrs. Gandhi was not on an official visit to Canada.

Cement project in Kashmir

New Delhi, [UNI]:The prestigious 600 tonne a day cement project of the Jammu and Kashmir Government will begin production soon. The Rs.290 million project at Khrew in Kashmir Valley will be the biggest industrial project in the State. M.K.Tikko, Industry Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, told UNI that the project, however, will initially work at 50 to 40 % production capacity.

CHILDREN'S NIGHT

Children's Night 1981, a multi-ethnic program of songs and dances, will be held at the Ridgemont High School, 2597 Alta Vista Drive, Ottawa on Saturday, November 28th and Sunday, November 29th, 1981 at 7:00 p.m.

This is part of a broader program designed to financially assist agencies working for the welfare of needy and handicapped children in the Ottawa-Hull region.

Donations of Christmas gifts for distribution to needy children in the capital region will be gratefully accepted on the days of the performance.

Tickets for the performance [adult $4.50, child $3.00] are available at all Treble Clef Record Stores in Ottawa.

For further information, please contact Dr. Satya Bhatnagar at 825-2071.

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MATRIMONIAL

Suitable match for a single gentleman, 34, visiting Canada, brother, sister well established, caste no bar. Will consider divorcee. Early marriage, contact (416) 229-5733.

Suitable match for a Brahmin girl, 23, beautiful, slim, working in India. Write: P.O. Box 857, Armdale, Nova Scotia, B3L 4K5.

Wanted a Hindu professional for a UP born attractive Agarwal girl, 29, B.SC., Canadian citizen and a bank executive. Write, with picture, to Mr. G.N. Agarwal, 2367 West 45th Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. V6M 2J5 - Phone 263-7342.

A young handsome bachelor from India, well settled in Libya. At present visiting brother in Toronto. Caste no bar. Call (416) 261-5054 or write 3311 Kingston Road #1009, Scarborough, Ontario M1M 1R1.

Wanted suitable professional boy for a Sikh Grewal girl, 5'-2", 22, B. Com. from Calcutta University, now visiting uncle in London, Ontario. Phone S. Singh (519) 472-7740 or write 1159 Viscount Road, London, Ontario N6K 1J2.

Wanted a U.S. immigrant match for a young, handsome, East Indian dentist, from Mahajan family of Punjab, 28, 5'-7", presently visiting North America. No bars. Canadian immigrant nurses can apply. Phone Dr. Chander Gupta (416) 493-0804 in Canada or Dr. Gurinder Wadhwa (518) 869-5701 in New York.

Wanted a suitable Canada or U.S. settled girl for M.SC engineer, 30, from Canada doing own business, Khatari Punjabi 5'-6½". Send full particulars with telephone number to M-1813, The Canadian India Times.

Correspondence invited from well-established gentlemen for my niece, (now in India), 22, 5'-3". Very beautiful, talented, B.A. (Hons.), vocational course, from respectable Sikh family in Delhi. Caste no bar. Boy's merits main consideration. M-1814, The Canadian India Times.

Suitable match wanted for a Muslim lawyer girl, 27, practising in Calcutta High Court, can be retrained in a year or two for practice in Canada/U.S.A. Well-known Indian Muslim family. Late father and uncle were cabinet ministers in the Centre and Province. M-1815, The Canadian India Times.

Correspondence invited for a suitable match for a tall, handsome, Punjabi boy completing degree in computer science next spring. Parents well settled in Western Canada. Send particulars and returnable photo to M-1809, The Canadian India Times.

Uncle invites correspondence for niece, B.A., 5 ft. 4 in., good looking, 27 years, respectable Punjabi Khatri family. Relatives well settled in Canada and U.S.A. Please write to M-1812, The Canadian India Times.

Professional match for beautiful, accomplished, convent-educated girl, 25, 5'-1", from Delhi. Also, beautiful, accomplished girl from good family for handsome DOCTOR, 29, 5'-8" well-settled in U.K. Call (416) 495-5481 or write 28 Ascot Cr., Markham (Toronto) Canada L3R 3P6.

Suitable match for a graduate Jat Sikh boy, 25 years, 5'-11". Caste no bar. Canadian citizen - American citizen or immigrants need apply. Write to A. Singh, P.O. Box 7, Stoney Creek, Ontario.

Baby's body found

By Dick Lochan

Toronto: The public help is being sought by the Metro Toronto Police in tracking down the mother of a newborn baby girl found wrapped in plastic bags and left to die behind an appartment building in Scarborough.

It was a landscape worker who stumbled across the baby's body with placenta stll attached, dumped in the Meadowvale/Highway 401 area on Wednesday 7th of October 1981. He immediately notified the police.

An autopsy revealed that the baby, of East Indian origin, was alive when wrapped in several layers of plastic bags and died of asphyxiation shortly afterwards.

Smile!

Psychologists say it is bad to be an orphan, terrible to be an only child, damaging to be the youngest, crushing to be in the middle, taxing to be the eldest. Obviously, the only way out of all this misery is to be born an adult.

Looking for a match?

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